

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

C1

1. (Original) A device for grasping tissue, comprising:
a tubular member having at a distal tip an annular surface surrounding a terminal port; and
at least one barb projecting at an angle from the annular surface of the tubular member, each at least one barb having a sharp edge configured to insert into the tissue as the tubular member is rotated about a longitudinal axis.

2. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the at least one barb includes a plurality of barbs spaced around the annular surface.

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3. (Original) The device of claim 2 wherein the plurality of barbs are unidirectional with respect to one another.

4. (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein the tubular member comprises a cannula.

5. (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein the annular surface is a blunt surface with the barbs projecting at an angle from the annular surface.

6. (Cancelled) The device of claim 1, further comprising a peripheral ring defining a reduced diameter portion on an inner surface of the tubular member adjacent to the distal tip.

7. (Original) A device for grasping tissue, comprising:

a tubular member having at a distal tip an annular surface surrounding a terminal port;

a plurality of barbs each having a sharp edge projecting at an angle from the annular surface of the tubular member;

a first lateral port formed in an external wall surface of the tubular member adjacent to the annular surface; and

a second lateral port formed in an external wall surface of the tubular member and spaced away from the annular surface.

8. (Original) A device for grasping tissue, the device comprising:

a cannula having at a distal tip an annular surface surrounding a terminal port; and

a plurality of sharp-edged barbs each projecting at an angle from the annular surface of the cannula and configured to grasp tissue when the cannula is rotated about a longitudinal axis.

9. (Original) The device of claim 8 wherein the barbs are unidirectional.

10. (Original) The device of claim 9 wherein the angle at which the barbs project from the annular surface is an acute angle.

11. Cancelled

12. (Original) An epidural grasping device, comprising:

a cannula having at a distal tip an annular surface surrounding a terminal port;

a plurality of barbs each projecting a sharp edge at an angle from the annular surface of the cannula;

a first lateral port formed in an external wall surface of the cannula adjacent to the annular surface; and

a second lateral port formed in an external wall surface of the cannula and spaced away from the annular surface.

13. (Original) The epidural grasping device of claim 12 wherein the sharp edges of the barbs are structured to engage tissue presented at the annular surface of the cannula by rotation of the cannula about a longitudinal axis.

14.-23. Cancelled